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FACT SHEET

Enhancing Legal and Electoral Capacity for Tomorrow (UNDP/ELECT)

OVERVIEW

USAID supports the national voter registration and elections process in Afghanistan through the United Nations Development Program's (UNDP) Enhancing Legal and Electoral Capacity for Tomorrow (ELECT) project. The project supports the work of the Independent Election Commissions (IEC) and the Elections Complaints Commission (ECC) at both the national and sub-national levels. These activities include and target international technical assistance in the design and development of administrative procedures, budget, and operational plans as well as substantial levels of operational and logistical support to assist in the administration of the elections.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- Increase the IEC's institutional capacity to carry out its mandate as an independent constitutional body
- Create an effective legal and institutional environment to enable the IEC and ECC to execute respective election administration and election disputes adjudication responsibilities
- Strengthen the IEC's capacity to design and implement a sustainable national voter registration program, to inform and engage the Afghan public, and to deliver a credible voter register in time for elections
- Support the IEC in the delivery of credible, sustainable electoral processes
- Support the IEC and ECC in the standing up of 34 provincial offices and respective national headquarters offices
- Support the ECC through the deployment of international technical advisors to assist in the development of procedures to manage and process election complaints
- Support the IEC and ECC to organize post-election lessons learned forums

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Held successful voter registration exercises in all 34 provinces of Afghanistan in preparation for the 2009 presidential elections
- Helped the IEC to develop an operational and logistical plan for national voter registration, the 2009 presidential and provincial council elections, and the 2010 parliamentary elections
- Enabled the IEC to formulate and review regulations and procedures for elections management
- Procured and installed infrastructure, equipment, and other logistical supplies for the 2009 and 2010 elections
- Strengthened the IEC's capacity to manage and implement election activities, as well as to recruit, train, and manage temporary IEC electoral staff
- Worked with the IEC to develop and implement a series of electoral fraud mitigation mechanisms